

## NEWS BRIEFS

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **July 9 City Council Work Session Identified 2 Potential Fremont Locations for Temporary Housing Navigation Center**

The Fremont City Council held a Work Session on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, to review 11 potential City-owned and privately-owned sites analyzed by City staff for locating a temporary housing navigation center in Fremont. The sites were based on previously recommended Council-approved criteria from the June 18 Council Work Session. After discussion from City staff, the City Council, and public comment, the Council selected two sites to further evaluate and directed staff to provide additional analysis on each location for the implementation of a housing navigation center, including cost estimates, and conduct community outreach.



City staff will further analyze the following two sites: Parking lot at Fremont City Hall (rear area) and the Decoto surplus property (unleased property next to Regan Nursery). Both locations are within one-half mile of food services and bus stop/bus services to BART, utility connection points abut property, and located outside of a fault trace zone.

The temporary navigation center will provide 45 beds and up to 6 months of housing to homeless adults while they are supported and focused on finding stable, permanent housing. The navigation center will be operated by Bay Area Community Services (BACS) who will provide 24/7 staffing and supportive services to the residents of the program. BACS also operates the Berkeley navigation center and two navigation centers in Oakland. Since 2013, BACS has successfully transitioned 1,006 individuals into permanent housing using the navigation center model. The creation of a navigation center in Fremont is in response to the growing homeless crisis. Recent data from the 2019 Point-in-Time Count indicated Fremont's homeless population grew by 27% over the past two years, rising from 479 homeless individuals to 608.

Most crimes reported within the homeless population are of the lower level crime types, and while scholarly articles nationally show there is a higher proportion of criminal activity within the homeless population, they are often acts of drinking, petty theft, and trespassing. In Fremont, police data from 2018 through April 30, 2019 have shown that criminal activity within the homeless population is slightly higher proportionally than the general population, and mirrors the national trend with misdemeanor-level crimes such as drugs, trespassing, petty theft, and battery/domestic violence. In a similar navigation center operated by BACS in Berkeley, they have reported less than a handful of calls to the police for that location.

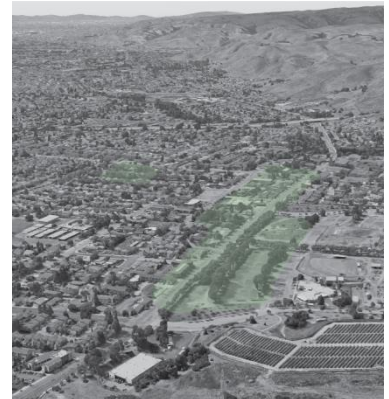
Throughout the summer, City staff will conduct outreach to obtain community input and comments on the two potential sites selected. At a City Council Meeting in September (date to be determined), staff will return with completed analysis and community feedback to present to the Council. It is anticipated that the Council would then select a final site to locate a temporary housing navigation center and City staff would proceed with procurement of contracts to implement the center.

To watch the recording of the July 9 City Council Work Session visit <https://fremont.gov/AgendaCenter/City-Council-4>. Copies of the full staff report and exhibits can be accessed by visiting [http://fremontcityca.igmp2.com/Citizens/Detail\\_Meeting.aspx?ID=1709](http://fremontcityca.igmp2.com/Citizens/Detail_Meeting.aspx?ID=1709).

### **Community Meeting for Mission San Jose Commercial Strategy Study**

*City of Fremont staff conducting community meeting to highlight key strategies from study*

In June 2018, the Fremont City Council directed City of Fremont staff to study the Mission San Jose Town Center to determine the potential for commercial success in the area—with special emphasis on retail, restaurants, entertainment options, and mixed use developments that include housing—and to develop strategies to support it accordingly. The Mission San Jose Town Center is a commercial district near Washington Boulevard and Mission Boulevard, anchored by the historic Mission San Jose church and museum.



The City has concluded the study, and City Council reviewed and accepted the final report for the study in May 2019. Key strategies identified in the study include focusing revitalization efforts on a smaller “primary commercial area” within the Town Center; enhancing the identity of the area through marketing, events, and signage; incorporating a leasing/merchandising plan for property owners and commercial tenants; and improving the public realm.

City staff is conducting another community meeting to outline the findings in detail. The community is invited to attend this meeting on Thursday, July 25 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Olive Hyde Center, located at 123 Washington Blvd in Fremont.

The Study Report and the City Council Report are available at [www.Fremont.gov/MissionSanJoseStudy](http://www.Fremont.gov/MissionSanJoseStudy).

For more information, please contact Wayne Morris, Deputy Community Development Director, at 510-494-4729 or by email at [wmorris@fremont.gov](mailto:wmorris@fremont.gov)

## Fremont Police Department Needs Your Input for a New Website

The Fremont Police Department is excited to begin development of a brand new website that will better serve the community. Our current website ([www.fremontpolice.org](http://www.fremontpolice.org)) is due for a redesign. Our new website is scheduled to launch by early 2020 and will focus on easy navigation, transparency, and mobile responsiveness. Please take a moment to respond to our community survey at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/7S6LCZM](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7S6LCZM)



We value your input! Your comments will help us build a more effective website. Please respond to the survey by Thursday, July 18, 2019.

## Summer Movies in the Park

Visit Central Park's Performance Pavilion just after sunset on July 26 and August 16 to enjoy Summer Movies in the Park! The City of Fremont's Recreation Services Division will be playing *How to Train Your Dragon* on July 26 and *Dumbo* on August 16. Admission is free, so grab some blankets, low beach chairs, and a picnic dinner to enjoy two great films with your family. For more information, visit [www.Fremont.gov/MovieNight](http://www.Fremont.gov/MovieNight).



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